(b) whether Government have approached to get some aid from foreign countries to implement the Command Area Development schemes; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Kota and Bikaner Divisions of Rajasthan are covered by the Chambal and Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana Command Area Development Projects respectively, under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme. The objectives of the Command Area Development Programme is to improve utilisation of created irrigation potential and to improve production/productivity from irrigated command. A number of Command Area Development activities relating to irrigation agriculture development such as construction of field channels field drains, land levelling/shaping, implementation of warabandi, carrying out adaptive trials, demonstration, training, farmers participation etc. are being undertaken under this programme for which central assistance on matching basis for selected activities are made available under an approved financing pattern.

(b) and (c) An agreement was signed in February, 1990 between India and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to participate in a research and development project to improve agricultural land and water management practices in the irrigated areas of Chambal Command and Indira Gandhi Nahar Project. The CIDA assistance is around 62.07 million Canadian dollars.

A loan agreement was also signed in March, 1990 with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan in scrutiny of existing design and performance of main canal and to furnish design and estimates for works relating to seepage conrol, control and removal of blown sand and control and removal of aquatic weeds from main canal of the Indira Gandhi Pariyojana. The estimated loan amount is around 84 million yen.

The Chambal Phase II Project submitted by the Government of Rajasthan is under process for posing for external assistance.

Sharing of river waters with Bangladesh

4334. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission's meeting was recently held at Dhaka to decide the sharing of river waters;

(b) whether both the countries have agreed to share the water of Teesta river; and

(c) if so, the details of the issues discussed in the said meeting and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The last meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission was held at Dhaka in June, 1990.

(b) For sharing the waer of Teesta river no agreement has been reached.

(c) The Commission Meeting at Dhaka attached importance to the need of an agreement on sharing of the waters of Ganga and Teesta river and directed for expediting the works regarding it.

Water dispute between Rajasthan and Punjab

4335. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Economic Times, New Delhi, dated 6th February, 1992 under caption "Water disputes with Punjab loom large";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to hold discussion with Chief Ministers of Punjab and Rajasthan to remove the differences, if any particularly on the closing of the SARHIND feeder for some

period by Punjab to enable Rajasthan to use waters of Link Canal and Ganga Nagar Canal for irrigation purposes and share of water from Ravi and Beas?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The article mainly refers to two issues, namely the request of Rajasthan Government to Government of Punjab to have a closure on the Sirhind feeder for 15 days and the question of sharing of Yamuna waters between the Basin States.

(c) A meeting was taken by the Cabinet Secretary with Chief Secretaries of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on 7-2-1992 when it was concluded that the appropriate time for the closure of Sirhind for 15 days would be between 20th March and 20th April. The schedule of cosure and requisite notifications would be kept ready by Punjab a for approval and appropriate action as soon as the newly elected Government of Punjab assumed office. Accordingly, the matter has been taken up with the Government of Punjab.

Integrated ground water utilisation Scheme

4336. SHRI J. S. RAJU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to implement Integrated Ground water utilisation scheme thoughout the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The National Water Policy adopted by the Government in 1987 emphasises integrated and coordinated development of surface and ground water and their conjunctive use. In pursuance of this policy, the Central Ground Water Board has taken up pilot schemes for the conjunctive use of ground and surface water in Sarda Sahayak Command Project, Uttar Pradesh, Mahi Kadana Canal Command Project, Gujarat and Indira Gandhi Nahar Priyojna, Rajasthan. The Board also proposes to undertake basinwise studies and pilot artificial recharge studies in the country for integrated use of surface and ground water during the VIII Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for water projects of Madhya Pradesh

4337. SHRI GHUFRAM AZAM:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Madhya Pradesh having been surrounded by as many as seven states has to cater for many inter-state river and water projects for which the State has no adequate funds;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to sanction more funds to the Madhya Pradesh for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Outlays for irrigation projects are provided in the State Plan which consist of Central Assistance and State Resources. The Central assistance is given to the State in the form of block loans/grants on the basis of a formula evolved for the purpose taking into account the factors like population, per capita income, performance and special problems. For expeditious completion of some of the Nationally important irrigation projects in the country including inter-state projects, it has been contemplated to provide special Central assistance to the States. Additional Central assistance for externally assisted projects is being made available in accordance with the existing guidelines.